


COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 25, 2006 (BOS Mtg. 2/7/06)

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: James O. McReynolds, County Administrator 

SUBJECT: Yorktown Trolley

On February 1, 2005, the Board adopted Resolution No. R05-15(R) to authorize submission of a grant application to the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation for funding to support acquisition of a second trolley bus to be operated in Yorktown. I am pleased to report that the application has been approved and we are now working with the state to finalize the details of the grant award.

Because the grant involves Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding, it is necessary that the funding be directed to an existing recipient of FTA funds. In the spirit of regional cooperation and tourism support, Williamsburg Area Transport (WAT) has offered to be the conduit through which the grant funds can be received and used for the intended purchase. Under the proposed arrangement, WAT will finalize and execute the grant documents with the state, purchase the trolley bus (using County-approved vehicle specifications), and lease the vehicle to the County. The County will be responsible for providing all necessary funds in excess of the amounts available from federal and state sources. Based on the grant award, funding allocations would be as follows, with the County's share to be funded from the Shared Roads Construction CIP account:

- Federal \$229,600
 - State 45,920
 - York County 11,480 (estimated, based on estimated purchase price)
- \$287,000

The term of the lease with WAT would be for the useful life of the trolley bus as identified by the FTA (anticipated to be 12 years). At the conclusion of the lease term, the County would have the option to assume ownership of the trolley bus for the sum of \$1.00, plus any reimbursement requested by the FTA. York County would be responsible for operating and maintaining the vehicle during the lease term and operations would be required to conform to all applicable FTA regulations. WAT would be responsible for monitoring and ensuring the County's compliance with the applicable federal requirements.

Although the amount of County funds involved in this procurement is less than the \$30,000 threshold amount requiring Board approval, implementation will involve execution of a long-term lease arrangement and an initial and ongoing commitment of tourism funds to support the procurement and annual operating costs (annual operation, based on the existing trolley schedule, is projected to be approximately \$15,000 per trolley). WAT and County staff are working to identify any opportunities to "piggy-

back” on existing procurement contracts that other transit agencies may have since doing so would allow procurement of our trolley to be expedited. Once a delivery date is established, we will be in a position to know if additional tourism fund appropriations are needed to support calendar year 2006 operations.

I have prepared the attached resolution for the Board’s consideration. Adoption of proposed Resolution No. R06-12 would authorize the County Administrator to execute the lease agreement with WAT and James City County and would indicate the Board’s intention to provide funds for the annual operating costs from the tourism designated lodging tax revenues. Please note that I am not recommending a specific appropriation of tourism funds at this time because it is not possible to predict when delivery of the vehicle will occur. I recommend adoption of proposed Resolution No. R06-12.

Carter/3337

Attachment

- Proposed Resolution No. R06-12